UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/693,647	10/20/2000	Paul Lapstun	NPA059US	7276

24011   7590   01/10/2005

SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD
393 DARLING STREET
BALMAIN,   2041
AUSTRALIA

EXAMINER
THAI, CUONG T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	

DATE MAILED: 01/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
Office Action Summary	09/693,647	LAPSTUN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	CUONG T THAI	2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _Amendment filed on August/02/04_.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-34_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-34_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

FINAL ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to Amendment filed on August/02/2004.

2.   Claims 1-34 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 (b)

that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office Action:

> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4.   Claims 1-13, 15, 17-31, and 33-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Graf et al. (USPN: 5,631,984) hereinafter Graf.

As per claim 1, Graf discloses a method of enabling a device to be controlled, via

a control interface containing information relating to a function of the device, the control

interface including coded data printed thereon indicative of an identity of the control

interface and of a plurality of reference points of the control interface, the coded data

identifying a unique location of each of the references points relative to the control

interface as the technique of a typical bank check 10 included printed coded data of

magnetic ink character recognition 16 (see col. 4, lines 2-14 and see Fig. 1), the check

10 may be scanned utilizing a scanner 35 in the manner well known in the art to

produce an original full check image 40 which includes the identified static and dynamic

portions (see col. 5, lines 5-8 and see Fig. 1), generating dynamic portion such as

handwritten of Dan Mayer (see col. 4, lines 8-9 and see Fig. 1), and <u>identified the</u>

<u>location of a number of dynamic fields such as payee 22, a legal amount 24, a date 26,</u>

<u>a courtesy amount 28 and a marker signature 30</u> (see col. 4, lines 23-26), the method

include the step of:

Receiving indicative from an optical sensing device regarding the identity of the

control interface and a position of the sensing device relative to the control interface,

generating the indicative data using at least some coded data and reading at least some

of the coded data on the control interface, and generating data using at least some of

the read coded data are taught by Graf as the technique of a typical bank check 10

included printed coded data of magnetic ink character recognition 16 (see col. 4, lines 2-

14 and see Fig. 1), read coded data as <u>221178954 0008780 3</u> (see Fig. 1), the check

10 may be scanned utilizing a scanner 35 in the manner well known in the art to

produce an original full check image 40 which includes the identified static and dynamic

portions (see col. 5, lines 5-8 and see Fig. 1), and generating dynamic portion such as

handwritten of Dan Mayer (see col. 4, lines 8-9 and see Fig. 1). This claim is therefore

rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claims 4 (method) and 23 (system), Graf discloses a method of enabling a

device to be controlled in which the device is operative to perform at least one function

in response to control instructions from a computer system, the method including the

steps of:

Providing a control interface including coded data printed thereon indicative of at least one parameter of the control instructions and one of a plurality of references points of the control interface, the coded data identifying a unique location of each of the reference points relative to the control interface are taught by Graf as the technique of a check including read coded data as 221178954 0008780 3 (see Fig. 1) and identified the location of a number of dynamic fields such as payee 22, a legal amount 24, a date 26, a courtesy amount 28 and a marker signature 30 (see col. 4, lines 23-26).

Receiving indicating data from an optical sensing device relating to said at least one parameter and regarding movement of the sensing device relative to the control interface, when moved relative to the control interface, sensing the coded data regarding to said at least one parameter and generating the indicating data generating the indicating data regarding the sensing device own movement relative to the control interface, and interpreting said movement of the sensing device as it relates to at least one parameter are taught by Graf as the technique of a typical bank check 10 included printed coded data of magnetic ink character recognition 16 (see col. 4, lines 2-14 and see Fig. 1), read coded data as 221178954 0008780 3 (see Fig. 1), the check 10 may be scanned utilizing a scanner 35 in the manner well known in the art to produce an original full check image 40 which includes the identified static and dynamic portions (see col. 5, lines 5-8 and see Fig. 1), and generating dynamic portion such as handwritten of Dan Mayer (see col. 4, lines 8-9 and see Fig. 1), and the check 10 may be scanned utilizing a scanner 35 in the manner well known in the art to produce an original full check image 40 which includes the identified static and dynamic portions

(see col. 5, lines 5-8 and see Fig. 1). This claim is therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claims 5 (method) and 24 (system), Graf discloses a method of enabling a device to be controlled in which the device is operative to perform at least one function in response to control instructions from a computer system, the method including the steps of:

Providing a control interface including coded data printed thereon indicative of an identity of the control interface and of a plurality of references points of the control interface, the coded data identifying a unique location of each of the references point relative to the control interface are taught by Graf as the technique of a check including read coded data as 221178954 0008780 3 (see Fig. 1) and identified the location of a number of dynamic fields such as payee 22, a legal amount 24, a date 26, a courtesy amount 28 and a marker signature 30 (see col. 4, lines 23-26).

Receiving indicating data from an optical sensing device relating regarding an identity of the user and regarding the identity of the control interface, the sensing device containing the data regarding the identity of the user and sensing the data regarding the identity of the control interface by reading at least some of the coded data, and effecting from the indicating data regarding the identity of the user and the identity of the control instructions relating to at least one parameter of the control instructions are taught by Graf as the technique of a typical bank check 10 included printed coded data of magnetic ink character recognition 16 (see col. 4, lines 2-14 and see Fig. 1), read coded

data as 221178954 0008780 3 (see Fig. 1), the check 10 may be scanned utilizing a

scanner 35 in the manner well known in the art to produce an original full check image

40 which includes the identified static and dynamic portions (see col. 5, lines 5-8 and

see Fig. 1), and generating dynamic portion such as handwritten of Dan Mayer (see col.

4, lines 8-9 and see Fig. 1), and the check 10 may be scanned utilizing a scanner 35 in

the manner well known in the art to produce an original full check image 40 which

includes the identified static and dynamic portions (see col. 5, lines 5-8 and see Fig. 1).

These claim are therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claim 20, Graf discloses a system for enabling a device to be controlled,

the system including:

A control interface containing information relating to the device function, the

control interface including coded data printed thereon indicative of an identity of the

control interface and of a plurality of reference points of the control interface, the coded

data identifying a unique location of each of the references points relative to the control

interface are taught by Graf as the technique of the check 10 may be scanned utilizing a

scanner 35 in the manner well known in the art to produce an original full check image

40 which includes the identified static and dynamic portions (see col. 5, lines 5-8 and

see Fig. 1), of read coded data **221178954 0008780 3** (see Fig. 1), generating dynamic

portion such as handwritten of Dan Mayer (see col. 4, lines 8-9 and see Fig. 1), and

identified the location of a number of dynamic fields such as payee 22, a legal amount

24, a date 26, a courtesy amount 28 and a marker signature 30 (see col. 4, lines 23-26).

A computer system incorporating control instruction operative to cause said device to perform said functions and operative to receiving indicative from an optical sensing device for effecting an operation relating to at least one parameter of the control instructions, the indicating data being indicative of the identity of the control interface and a position of the sensing device relative to the control interface, the sensing device reading the coded data on the control interface and generating the indicating data using at least some of the read coded data as the technique of a typical bank check 10 included printed coded data of **magnetic ink character recognition 16** (see col. 4, lines 2-14 and see Fig. 1), the check 10 may be scanned utilizing a scanner 35 in the manner well known in the art to produce an original full check image 40 which includes the identified static and dynamic portions (see col. 5, lines 5-8 and see Fig. 1), and generating dynamic portion such as handwritten of Dan Mayer (see col. 4, lines 8-9 and see Fig. 1). This claim is therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claim 18, the limitation of providing all required information relating to the device function in the control interface to eliminate the need for a separate display device is taught by Graf as the technique of a check including read coded data as 221178954 0008780 3 (see Fig. 1) and dynamic parameter fields such as **fields 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30** corresponds to payee of Dan Mayer, a legal amount, a date, a courtesy amount and a marker signature (see Fig. 1 and see col. 4, lines 24-26). This claim is therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claims 2 (method) and 21 (system), Graf discloses the limitation of at least one parameter relating to control instructions is associated with at least one zone of the control interface and in which the method includes effecting an operation relating to at least one parameter as the technique of a check including dynamic parameter fields such as **fields 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30** corresponds to payee of Dan Mayer, a legal amount, a date, a courtesy amount and a marker signature (see Fig. 1 and see col. 4, lines 24-26) and the dynamic image 42 represents a dropped form image, which include all of the handwritten text added to the check. The MICR line code extracted from the check image 40 is supplied to a database within issuing bank. The issuing bank may maintain, within database 45, a preprinted check form image for each checking account at the bank (see col. 5, lines 58-62). These claim are therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claim 3, Graf discloses the limitation of receiving data regarding movement of the sensing device relative to the control interface and effecting an operation relating to at least one parameter of the control instruction as the technique of a check including dynamic parameter fields such as **fields 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30** corresponds to payee of Dan Mayer, a legal amount, a date, a courtesy amount and a marker signature, The marker generally enters handwritten text in each of these dynamic fields every time the check is used (see Fig. 1 and see col. 4, lines 24-27) wherein the dynamic portion may be distinct from document to document (see col. 4, lines 10-11). This claim is therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claims 6, 22, and 25; due to the partially similarity of each of these claim to that of claim 3, these claims are therefore rejected for the same reason applied to claim 3.

As per claims 7 (method) and 26 (system), Graf discloses the limitation of in which the parameter of the control instructions comprising selecting device as the technique of the issuing bank would print the generic form, with the appropriate MICR code identifying the account number and check number each processing. The issuing bank could use a variety of different generic forms and identifying an appropriate generic form for a particular customer based upon the account number (see col. 6, lines 49-54) via communication network 39 (see Fig. 1). These claims are therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claims 8 (method) and 27 (system), Graf discloses the limitation of issuing a command code to said device to perform function in response to operation as the technique of the check 10 may be scanned utilizing a scanner 35 (see col. 5, lines 5-6) and the cancelled checks are reconstructed by printing, utilizing a printer 38 (see col. 6, lines 22-23). These claims are therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claim 9, the limitation of the command code is issued to said device through sensing device is taught by Graf as the technique of a typical bank check 10 included printed coded data of **magnetic ink character recognition 16** (see col. 4, lines 2-14 and see Fig. 1), the check 10 may be scanned utilizing a scanner 35 in the

manner well known in the art to produce an original full check image 40 which includes

the identified static and dynamic portions (see col. 5, lines 5-8 and see Fig. 1). This

claim is therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claims 10 (method) and 28 (system), Graf discloses the limitation of the

command code is issued to said device independently of said sensing device as the

technique of a technique of the check 10 may be scanned utilizing a scanner 35 (see

col. 5, lines 5-6) and the cancelled checks are reconstructed by printing, utilizing a

printer 38 (see col. 6, lines 22-23). These claims are therefore rejected for the reason as

set forth above.

As per claim 11, Graf discloses the limitation of the limitation of the command

code is issued to device using wireless technology as the technique of the MICR code

may be read using optical character recognition (OCR) (see col. 5, lines 25-27). This

claim is therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claims 15 (method) and 33 (system), Graf discloses the limitation of

retaining a retrievable record of each control interface generated, the control interface

retrievable using its identity as the technique of the dynamic image 42 represents a

dropped form image, which include all of the handwritten text added to the check. The

MICR line code extracted from the check image 40, is supplied to a database within

issuing bank. The issuing bank may maintain, within database 45, a preprinted check

form image for each checking account at the bank (see col. 5, lines 58-62) and the issuing bank stores the dynamic image 42 for each check in a check image database 50 (see col. 5 line 67 to col. 6 line 1). These claims are therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claims 17 (method) and 29 (system), Graf discloses the limitations of an identification means which imparts a unique identity to the sensing device and identifies it as belonging to a particular user and in which the method includes monitoring said identity as the technique of the check 10 may be scanned utilizing a scanner 35 in the manner well known in the art to produce an original full check image 40 which includes the identified static and dynamic portions (see col. 5, lines 5-8 and see Fig. 1), of read coded data **221178954 0008780 3** (see Fig. 1), and generating dynamic portion such as handwritten of Dan Mayer (see col. 4, lines 8-9 and see Fig. 1) and the cancelled checks are reconstructed by printing, utilizing a printer 38, an appropriate static image or check forms, retrieved from database 45, on the statement 55. The check forms in database 45 are identified by the stored MICR line ... The printed form may also include the account name and address (see col. 6, lines 22-29). These claims are therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claim 12, Graf disclose the limitation of printing the control interface on demand as the technique of the marker could avoid such problem and more accurately balance and manage the account, if the issuing bank provides the customer statement

55 with <u>reconstructed check images 57</u> as shown in Fig. 2. The cancelled checks <u>are</u> <u>reconstructed by printing utilizing a printer 38</u> or check from database 45 on the statement 55 (see col. 6, lines 18-24) and the handwritten portion of each of the processed checks is then printed by the printer 38 over the appropriate check form on the statement 55, as identified by check number (see col. 6, lines 39-42). These claims are therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claim 13, Graf disclose the limitation of printing the control interface on a surface of a surface-defined means and at the same time the control interface printing the coded data on the surface as the technique of the technique of a check including static coded data of <u>221178954 0008780 3</u> and dynamic parameter fields such as **fields 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30** corresponds to payee of Dan Mayer, a legal amount, a date, a courtesy amount and a marker signature (see Fig. 1 and see col. 4, lines 24-26) and the handwritten portion of each of the processed checks is then printed by the printer 38 over the appropriate check form on the statement 55, as identified by check number (see col. 6, lines 39-42). This claim is therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

As per claim 30, due to the similarity of this claim to the combination of claim 12 and claim 13 (limitation a), this claim is therefore rejected for the same reasons applied to claims 12 and 13.

As per claim 31, due to the similarity of this claim to the limitation b) of claim 13, this claim is therefore rejected for the same reasons applied to claim 13.

As per claims 19 (method) and 34 (system), Graf discloses the limitation of printed on multiple pages and includes binding the pages as the technique of the issuing bank provides the customer statement 55 with reconstructed check images 57 as shown in Fig. 2. The cancelled checks are reconstructed by printing utilizing a printer 38 or check from database 45 on the statement 55 (see col. 6, lines 19-24). These claims are therefore rejected for the reason as set forth above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Graf et al. (USPN: 5,631,984) in view of Tseng et al. (USPN: 6,119,159) hereinafter Tseng.

As per claim 16, Graf discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Graf, however, does not disclose the limitation of distributing a plurality of control interfaces using a mixture of multicast and pointcast protocols.

Tseng discloses the limitation of distributing a plurality of control interfaces using a mixture of multicast and pointcast protocols as the technique of a CMIC (Cabinet Module Interface Controller) 14 coupled to and controlling one or more Chassis Management Board 16. Both the CMIC and CMB are embedded controller that are configured in a hierarchy to form the foundation for the Distributed Service Subsystem (see col. 3, lines 5-10) for specify interfaces that preclude the need for the managed components to adapt to the Distributed Service Subsystem (see col. 3, lines 16-18) wherein all system event message are broadcast, multicast, or pointcast onto the SLAN using a well-defined format by one or more "station" (see col. 4, lines 44-47).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Tseng's distributing a plurality of control interfaces using a mixture of multicast and pointcast protocols into that of Graf invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by allowing Cabinet Module Interface Controller communicate, send, and control event message to component protocols which received message.

7.   Claims 14 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Graf et al. (USPN: 5,631,984) in view of Applicant's admitted IDS issued to Interval Research Corporation (WO 99/18487).

As per claims 14 (method) and 32 (system), Graf discloses the invention substantially as claimed above. Graf, however, does not disclose the limitation of printing the coded data to be substantially invisible in the visible spectrum.

Interval Research Corporation discloses the limitation of printing the coded data

to be substantially invisible in the visible spectrum as the technique of a content

encoding scheme contemplated by the present invention is a bar code printed using

invisible, e.g., infrared (IR), inks. Such a bar code would be apparent to the sensor but

invisible to the user (see page 9, lines 12-14).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to include Interval Research Corporation's printing the coded data

to be substantially invisible in the visible spectrum into that of Graf's invention. By doing

so, the system would be enhanced by capable of allowing sensor to coupled to the

computer system for reading and/or decoding coded data which invisible to the user.

Thus, the system would provide better privacy protection on multi-media content to

system's user.

8.   Applicants' arguments filed on August/02/2004 have been fully considered, but

they are not persuasive.

On page 10, fifth paragraph, with respect to claims 1-13, 15, 17-31, and 33-34,

Applicants argue that "In contrast, the Applicant's invention provides a control interface

having coded data printed thereon where the coded data itself identifies a unique

location of each of a plurality of reference points on the control interface. This feature is

not disclosed, taught or suggested by Graf".

The Examiner, however, does not agree to this argument since in Graf's

invention, the coded data is taught as the technique of **static encoded data of**

221178954 0008780 3 (see Fig. 1) and this coded data <u>identified the unique location of</u>

<u>a number of dynamic field such as payee 22, a legal amount 24, a date 26, a courtesy</u>

<u>amount 28 and a marker signature 30</u> (see col. 4, lines 23-26). This coded data will

identified and verified a unique location of handwritten every time a check is used and

issued.

On page 11, first and second paragraphs, with respect to claim 16, Applicants

argue that "Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection is now moot in light of the

above described amendments distinguishing the independent claims from Graf. Tseng

does not discloses, teach or suggest coded data identifying a unique location of each of

a plurality of reference points relative to a control interface". The Examiner, however,

does not agree to this argument since Graf discloses the feature of "coded data

identifying a unique location of each of a plurality of reference points relative to a control

interface" as the technique of coded data <u>identified the unique location of a number of</u>

<u>dynamic field such as payee 22, a legal amount 24, a date 26, a courtesy amount 28</u>

<u>and a marker signature 30</u> (see col. 4, lines 23-26). This coded data will identified and

verified a unique location of handwritten every time a check is used and issued. This

claim is therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

On page 11, third and fourth paragraphs, with respect to claims 14 and 32,

Applicants argue that "Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection is now moot in

light of the above described amendments distinguishing the independent claims from

Graf. Interval Research Corporation does not discloses, teach or suggest coded data

identifying a unique location of each of a plurality of reference points relative to a control interface". The Examiner, however, does not agree to this argument since Graf discloses the feature of "coded data identifying a unique location of each of a plurality of reference points relative to a control interface" as the technique of coded data identified the unique location of a number of dynamic field such as payee 22, a legal amount 24, a date 26, a courtesy amount 28 and a marker signature 30 (see col. 4, lines 23-26). This coded data will identified and verified a unique location of handwritten every time a check is used and issued. These claims are therefore rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

Conclusion

9.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of
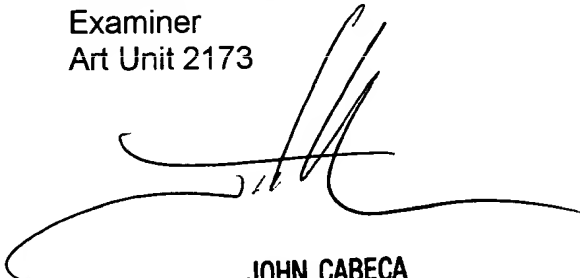
the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

10.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CUONG T THAI whose telephone number is (571) 272-4056. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Cabeca, can be reached at (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CUONG T THAI
Examiner
Art Unit 2173

***

JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINE'
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 210'

January 06, 2005.